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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PATENT APPLICATION NO: 09/711,002
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 09564.002001

R. Kent
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#8 / Request
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Minegishi YUKIO *et al.* Art Unit: 3712
Serial No.: 09/711,002 ✓ Examiner: Kurt Fernstrom
Filed : November 9, 2000
Title : INSTRUMENT FOR CONTEMPLATION ✓

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

In response to the Office Action dated November 27, 2002, please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for carefully reviewing this application. Please change the attorney docket number for this application to --09564/002001--.

I. Disposition of Claims

Claims 8-17 are pending. Claims 8 and 14 are independent claims. Claims 9-13 and 15-17 are dependent claims.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 8-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The invention as recited in claims 8-17 relates to an instrument for contemplation used for solving determined problems and/or fulfilling different types of objectives, defined as subjects. The instrument for contemplation can be used in, for example, meetings including several participants, where those problems and/or objectives are being discussed.

In general, the present invention comprises a display medium, such as a paper or a